

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MEXICO 03008 081644Z

63

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10 JUSE-00 NSAE-00

SNM-02 SY-05 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01

SCS-03 IGA-01 /054 W

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R 081538Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7092

DEA HQS WASHDC

INFO ALL AMCONSULS MEXICO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 3008

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, MX

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES FOR DEA OPERATIONS IN MEXICO

S/NM FOR AMB. VANCE

IGA FOR MR. TODD

SCS FOR MR. CHASE

DEA HDQS EOI FOR MR. CUSACK

ARA FOR MR. LUERS

REFS: A. STATE 14796 (GENERAL DEA GUIDELINES)

B. STATE 15392 (CONSULAR GUIDELINES)

C. STATE 17696 (DEA GUIDELINES FOR MEXICO)

1. DEA OPERATIONS IN MEXICO CONSTITUTE THE PRINCIPAL  
INSTRUMENT IN WORKING TOWARD ONE OF THE MAJOR SINGLE OBJEC-  
TIVES OF THIS MISSION -- THAT OF SUPPRESSING THE TRAFFIC  
IN NARCOTICS ENTERING THE UNITED STATES FROM MEXICO. THE  
WORK OF DEA AGENTS IS ARDUOUS AND DANGEROUS AND THEY MERIT  
THE SUPPORT AND ADMIRATION OF US ALL. THE WORK OF DEA  
AGENTS, WHEN IT IS PERFORMED OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES IS  
ALSO POLITICALLY DELICATE AS IT CARRIES ADDITIONAL POLI-  
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PAGE 02 MEXICO 03008 081644Z

TICAL RISKS THAT AN UNFORESEEABLE INCIDENT COULD JEOPARDIZE

NOT ONLY OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS IN GENERAL, BUT THE ANTI-NARCOTICS EFFORT IN PARTICULAR.

2. THE THREE REFERENCED TELEGRAMS SUGGESTED PARAMETERS FOR DEA OPERATIONS OVERSEAS. REFERENCE C DEALT SPECIFICALLY WITH THE CASE OF MEXICO. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS CHIEF OF MISSION AND IN KEEPING WITH THE GUIDANCE CONTAINED IN REFERENCES A AND C, I AM HEREBY ISSUING THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES FOR DEA OPERATIONS IN MEXICO. THESE GUIDELINES ARE CONSISTENT WITH AND IN SOME CASES SUPPLEMENTARY TO THE SUGGESTIONS CONTAINED IN THE REFERENCED TELEGRAMS.

3. AS I HAVE MADE CLEAR IN OUR DISCUSSIONS ON THE SUBJECT, THE GUIDELINES ARE SUBJECT TO REVISION AND AMENDMENT ONCE WE HAVE DEVELOPED EXPERIENCE IN WORKING WITH THEM. THE GUIDELINES ARE EFFECTIVE AS OF THIS DATE.

4. GUIDELINES FOR DEA OPERATIONS IN MEXICO:

A. DEA AGENTS WILL NOT UNDERTAKE UNILATERAL ACTIONS IN MEXICO EXCEPT IN DEVELOPING INFORMANTS AND CONDUCTING SURVEILLANCE DURING CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS, OR IN THOSE CASES SPECIFICALLY APPROVED BY ME IN ADVANCE.

B. WHEN DEA WISHES ENFORCEMENT ACTION, IT SHOULD CONCERT WITH THE MEXICAN FEDERAL JUDICIAL POLICE (MFJP).

C. DEA MAY PARTICIPATE IN MFJP ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS INVOLVING ACTUAL RAIDS AND SEIZURES IF THE PRESENCE OR PARTICIPATION OF DEA AGENTS IS REQUIRED FOR THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE ACTION. DEA PARTICIPATION WILL GENERALLY BE DIRECTED AT IMPORTANT TRAFFICKERS OR SIGNIFICANT SEIZURES, AND IT MUST BE REQUESTED OR APPROVED BY THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT.

D. WHEN PARTICIPATING IN ACTIONS FORESEEN IN (C) ABOVE, DEA AGENTS WILL AT ALL TIMES MAINTAIN AS LOW A PROFILE AND REMAIN IN THE BACKGROUND AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. ALL ARRESTS WILL BE EFFECTED ONLY BY MEXICAN AUTHORITIES, AND CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 MEXICO 03008 081644Z

DEA AGENTS SHOULD IF POSSIBLE WITHDRAW WHENEVER ARRESTS OR SHOOTINGS ARE LIKELY TO OCCUR.

E. IF US CITIZENS ARE ARRESTED OR INJURED DURING ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS, U.S. CONSULAR OFFICIALS WILL BE INFORMED IMMEDIATELY.

F. WHILE THE MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL TACITLY HAS

APPROVED DEA AGENTS CARRYING WEAPONS IN LINE OF DUTY, THIS DOES NOT CONSTITUTE FORMAL, WRITTEN APPROVAL. DEA AGENTS WILL NOT CARRY FIREARMS EXCEPT WHEN ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. A DEA AGENT WILL NOT DISCHARGE HIS WEAPON UNLESS IT IS FOR THE PROTECTION OF HIMSELF, A FELLOW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, OR AN INNOCENT BYSTANDER.

G. DESPITE THE PRECAUTIONS IN (D) ABOVE, DEA AGENTS MAY BE INVOLVED IN THE DEATH OR WOUNDING OF NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS OR A DEA AGENT OR THIRD PARTY MAY BE KILLED OR WOUNDED. SHOULD IT BE IMPOSSIBLE TO AVOID PUBLICITY, THE USG WILL ADHERE TO A POLICY OF NO COMMENT, LEAVING ANY STATEMENT TO THE MEXICAN AUTHORITIES.

H. DEA AGENTS WILL BE PRESENT AT GOM INTERROGATIONS OF PRISONERS ONLY IF THE GOM REQUESTS THEIR PARTICIPATION OR, IF THE CASE IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT TO THE USG, THE GOM HAS GRANTED PERMISSION FOR SUCH PARTICIPATION. THE DEA AGENT MUST PRODUCE A WRITTEN REPORT OF THE INTERROGATION. IF HE IS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE QUESTIONING OF A U.S. PRISONER, THE DEA AGENT MUST CLEARLY IDENTIFY HIMSELF. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL A DEA AGENT BE PARTY TO THE ABUSE, TORTURE OR OTHER DENIAL OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF ANY PRISONER, MEXICAN OR AMERICAN; SHOULD SUCH ACTION OCCUR, THE DEA AGENT IS TO WITHDRAW FROM THE PREMISES IMMEDIATELY. SUCH INCIDENTS ARE TO BE REPORTED ON ANY FYI BASIS TO THE HEAD OF THE EMBASSY CONSULAR SECTION OR TO THE PRINCIPAL OFFICER OF THE CONSTITUENT POST CONCERNED, AS WELL AS TO THE EMBASSY NARCOTICS COORDINATOR; (IN ORDER NOT TO COMPROMISE DEA RELATIONSHIPS, CONSULAR OFFICERS SHOULD IN NO CASE ASCRIBE SUCH INFORMATION TO DEA BUT SHOULD USE IT AS A "LEAD" FOR VERIFICATION BY OTHER MEANS). IF DEA WISHES TO CONDUCT ITS OWN INTERVIEW WITH A PRISONER, IT MUST BE WITH THE EXPRESS CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 MEXICO 03008 081644Z

APPROVAL OF THE PRISONER AND THE GOM PRISON AUTHORITIES.

I. DEPORTATION OR REMOVAL OF VIOLATORS FROM MEXICO TO THE UNITED STATES WILL BE CONDUCTED BY MEXICAN AUTHORITIES. THERE SHOULD BE NO PHYSICAL INTERVENTION ON THE PART OF ANY U.S. AUTHORITY UNTIL THE PERSON OR PERSONS BEING DEPORTED ARRIVE IN U.S. TERRITORY.

J. DEA AGENTS WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN ROADBLOCK ACTIVITY UNLESS REQUESTED TO DO SO BY THE MEXICAN AUTHORITIES, AT LEAST AT THE LEVEL OF THE LOCAL MFJP COMMANDANT.

K. I EXPECT THAT I (OR IN MY ABSENCE MY DEPUTY) WILL BE KEPT INFORMED ON A REGULAR BASIS OF GENERAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ANTI-NARCOTICS FIELD. I, AND/OR MY

DEPUTY AND THE EMBASSY NARCOTICS COORDINATOR SHOULD BE INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF SENSITIVE OPERATIONS IN WHICH DEA AGENTS ARE DIRECTLY TO BE INVOLVED. IN THE EVENT OF UNFORESEEN, SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS INVOLVING DEA PERSONNEL, I SHOULD BE INFORMED PERSONALLY AND AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GUIDELINES FOR DEA OPERATIONS IN MEXICO S/NM FOR AMB. VANCE  
**TAGS:** SNAR, MX, US, DEA  
**To:** STATE DEA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006